

Mayor Mary Cooper called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Also present were Councilmembers Robert Jurca, Guy Pfalzgraff and Bill Seuell, along with City Manager Lanny Sloan and City Attorney Mike Schottelkotte. A meeting notice was posted in the south window at City Hall at least twenty-four hours prior to the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Mayor led everyone present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Changes to the Agenda

There were none.

Minutes

It was moved by Councilmember Jurca and seconded by Councilmember Pfalzgraff to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2009 regular meeting as submitted by the Clerk. All in favor, motion carried.

Citizen Comments

Jami Taylor, 105 ½ Eaton Avenue, commented on the increase in vandalism in the City of Delta.

Financial Report

Finance Director Tod DeZeeuw presented the financial report ending December 31, 2008.

2009/2010 Weed Contract Bids

Community Development Director Glen Black explained that staff had requested proposals for weed control within the City of Delta for 2009/2010. Mr. Black summarized the four proposals that were received. He stated that Fedler Spraying Services and Damon Lockhart have provided services to the City of Delta in the past and both had performed satisfactory. Based on the bids Fedler Spraying was the low bid and staff would recommend that Council authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Fedler Spraying for the two year weed control.

It was moved by Councilmember Pfalzgraff and seconded by Councilmember Seuell to authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Fedler Spraying, LLC for the 2009/2010 City of Delta weed control upon review and approval of all documents. All in favor, motion carried.

Engineering Services Contract

Public Works Director Jim Hatheway stated that in December of 2008 the City advertised for engineering series to assist with the design of public improvements. The function of this contract is to have a single on-call engineer for the smaller designs that we are not able to complete in house. The City received 14 responses to the request and evaluated the submittals to determine the most qualified bidder. Evaluation criteria included billing rates, personnel availability to the City, project understanding and previous experience. The evaluation of the proposals was a difficult process and staff feels that Austin Civil Group will provide the services and response that is required. Austin Civil Group formerly RG Consulting, has provided design and inspection work for the City under a similar contract in the past. The performance of Austin Civil Group will be evaluated on an annual basis prior to renewal of the agreement for years two and three. The projects being considered for design include the Pioneer to Stafford connection, Crawford Avenue improvements and utility projects that are identified in the 10-year capital improvement plan for water, sewer and storm water. Mr. Hatheway stated that staff has budgeted \$60,000 for this service for 2009.

Councilmember Pfalzgraff asked how Austin Civil Group compared to the other bids and what other planned items are being looked at within the three years.

Mr. Hatheway stated that on the dollar side they were the most favorable and they had the best understanding of the City's needs. He also stated that the projects that they are looking at are the completion of the Crawford corridor, 5th Street from Hartig to the west, and storm water improvements on Main Street between 2nd and 4th Streets and 7th and 12th.

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Engineer Services Contract (cont.)

Councilmember Jurca asked if the companies knew that they were bidding on a three year contract.

Mr. Hatheway stated that they did know it could be up to three years depending on their performance.

City Manager Lanny Sloan also stated that one of the projects they are looking at them working on is the elevator for City Hall which would save the City time and money. He clarified that they are not going to pay for work that doesn't get done; they will only pay for services needed.

Mr. Hatheway presented the names other companies that submitted a proposal.

Attorney Michael Schottelkotte advised Council that the motion should include the language of subject to annual performance review by City staff and approval of contract form by the City Manager or City Attorney.

It was moved by Councilmember Jurca and seconded by Councilmember Pfalzgraff to award the contract for engineering services for up to 3 years to Austin Civil Group based on an annual performance review by city staff and approval by legal counsel. All in favor, motion carried.

Revision of Golf Course Fees

City Manager Lanny Sloan explained that Rob Sanders, the Golf Pro, has been with the City for about one year and during that time he has been evaluating the fees at the golf course. He stated that there are some increases and decreases and asked Mr. Sanders to present that information to Council.

Golf Professional Rob Sanders Golf stated that this is real similar to what was discussed earlier during work sessions. He explained that they are trying to encourage golfers to use the course during less busy times which is Mondays thru Thursdays. He summarized the proposed fees adding that they are trying to simplify the rates.

Councilmember Jurca wanted clarification on the resident/non-resident fee.

Mr. Sanders stated that they would be eliminating that to make it fair for everyone.

It was moved by Councilmember Seuell and seconded by Councilmember Jurca to adopt the recommended fee revisions for the Devil's Thumb Golf Course contained in this memorandum. All in favor, motion carried.

Revision of Animal Shelter Fees

City Manager Lanny Sloan stated that the Police Department has submitted a recommendation to revise the animal shelter fees. They also made recommendations for animal fine and fees that need to be set by ordinance and/or by the Courts.

Chief of Police Robert Thomas explained that for the last ten months he has been evaluating the strengths and improvements of the police department and the animal shelter. He invited Council to visit the animal shelter to see the improvements that have been made to the facility. He also explained that the fees were part of the improvements and asked Tammy Holden and Gilberta Mathews to explain those improvements needed in the increase of the fees.

Animal Control Officer Tammy Holden summarized the current fees and the increases that they are recommending. Ms. Holden stated that the law now requires that they spay or neuter all animals prior to them entering into a new home. She explained that to offset that cost they are recommending that the adoption fees increase and summarized those recommended fees.

Councilmember Pfalzgraff asked how the fees compared to other municipalities.

Ms. Holden summarized Montrose, Cedaredge and the Delta County Humane Society's fees.

Councilmember Jurca asked how often the City gets owner surrender.

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Revision of Animal Shelter Fees (cont.)

Ms. Holden stated that there are not many owner surrender and explained that most individuals just drop off the animal somewhere in the City.

Animal Control Assistant Gilberta Mathews encouraged Council to come to the shelter and see the changes with the facility. Ms. Mathews summarized the fees for private cremations and explained the policies for a cremation.

Councilmember Pfalzgraff asked how many animals they cremate in a year.

Ms. Holden stated that on private cremation it would range from 50 to 70 a year. They do not advertise for this service it is word of mouth through veterinarians and citizens.

Councilmember Pfalzgraff stated that the current fees that are in place have been so for over 7 years. He also asked how they came up with these new fees.

Ms. Holden explained that coming up with these figures has been an on-going process to see how to raise some of these rates but also still make it affordable to come in and reclaim your pet. She stated that in 2006 she contacted several other municipalities. Ms. Holden also explained that there are a medical costs that the City does incur.

Councilmember Pfalzgraff asked how they see the increases to quantity of business going up or down from what it is now.

Ms. Holden stated that the adoptions may increase due to the fact of the cost of spaying or neutering an animal. The City does get a discounted price when incurring those fees however there will be some kind of a loss.

It was moved by Councilmember Seuell and seconded by Councilmember Pfalzgraff to adopt the recommended Animal Control and Shelter fees contained in this memorandum. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilmember Pfalzgraff stated that it would behoove animal control to look at these fees on an annual basis.

Habitat for Humanity Request to Donate Building and Tap Fees

City Manager Lanny Sloan explained that Tom Harding is here to make request on behalf of Habitat for Humanity.

Councilmember Jurca recused himself.

Tom Harding stated that Habitat for Humanity started in 1994 in Delta County. During that time they have completed four houses. He explained that this is a hand-up not a handout. The reasons they only completed four houses within that time is due to the fact that they rely on donations. Mr. Harding explained the process in which people are eligible for their assistance.

Mr. Harding stated that in the past the Delta City Council has donated the building permit fee, the water tap and sewer tap fees on the houses Habitat has constructed within the city limits and again Habitat is asking for the City's help in completing the current project by donating the same fees. The current project is a two bedroom house located on G Road that is being moved to 910 Bluff Street.

Mayor Cooper explained that this would need to come out of the donation fund and at this time Council does not have a donation fund. She asked what the cost would be to the City.

Mr. Harding stated that according to Community Development the estimated cost would be \$10,850. He also stated that Habitat for Humanity is a 501C3 organization which allows the City to donate to them.

There was discussion amongst Council regarding the donation fund.

Mayor Cooper asked the City Manager if he could bring more information to Council at the next meeting.

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City Attorney Comments

There were none.

City Manager Comments

City Manager Lanny Sloan reminded Council of the work session with MEAN on January 27, 2009 at 5:30pm. He also stated that the Planning Commission would like to meet with Council on either March 12, 2009 or March 19, 2009.

Councilmember Pfalzgraff stated that having a work session with the Planning Commission is very important and he would like to have a dinner of thanks later on.

Councilmember Comments

Councilmember Pfalzgraff commented on Tom Painter with the Lion's Club was before Council two meetings ago requesting financial assistance for the health fair. He stated that these requests come to Council at various times and that he feels Council needs to look at what they can do for the community in these type of things that do benefit the citizens in this community.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Jolene E. Nelson, City Clerk